

embodiments provide novel mechanisms] and to stabilize and/or anchor the sling when retrofitted to conventional underwear.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings as provided in red on attachment sheets hereto. A separate letter requesting approval accompanies.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments.

Page 2, following line 21, insert:

72 sub 1 305 summary
A protective garment comprises an outer layer of fluid-resistant material shaped to conform to a buttock and leg region of a user, an anchor layer secured to the outer layer and having a shape conforming to that of the outer layer, and an inner layer of fluid-resistant material with all sides thereof attached to the anchor layer at the attached sides being displaced from corresponding sides of the anchor layer, and the inner layer extending outwardly from the anchor layer to form a pocket.

Another embodiment of protective garment comprises a first, outer layer of fluid-resistant material, a second layer of material having its peripheral edge attached to the first layer, the second layer conforming in shape to that of the first layer and having a central opening, and a third layer of material attached only at its outer edge by an elastic

cont
D? strip to the second layer and extending beneath the opening toward to first layer, the third layer being proportioned relative to the opening so as to form a pocket, the entire periphery of which is beneath the second layer and larger than the opening. ~~W~~

Page 3, paragraph containing line 4, amendment

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing one embodiment of a reusable diaper with anchor pocketed sling, produced in accordance with the principles of the invention and shown open into position to be worn, with cutaway to expose underlying detail.

Pages 6-7, paragraph containing Page 6, lines 20 and 22 amendments

Referring to Figs. 1A-1H, a reusable diaper in accordance with one embodiment of the invention, designated generally by numeral 10, comprises a waterproof or water-resistant (breathable type fabric) diaper shell (outer shell) 12 within which is retained a fluid containment pocket 50, positioned to be located about the groin when worn by an infant or adult. Referring to Fig. 1A, the diaper is formed of three layers; a waterproof or water-resistant outer shell 12, an inner liner 16 generally soft to the touch and optionally of fluid absorbent fabric, and a layer forming a fluid containment pocket, or anchored pocketed-sling, 50, of water-resistant or waterproof material 13. The two outer layers 12 and 16 of the diaper shell are generally of the same shape, and the anchor cloth[,] 16 is on the inside of, and aligned with, the outer shell 12. This liner 16 forms an attachment mechanism at a stitch line 17 to anchor the pocketed sling 50 to shell 12. The outer shell 12 and its inner liner 16 are joined at the leg hole by a leg elastic strip 18, which convolutes the two layers, stitched at line 20 and holds the two layers together to form a leg hole 22. The inner

pocketed sling is positioned and attached (stitched) centrally to the inner liner 16 only.

Hence, the stitching does not pierce shell 12.

Page 7, paragraph containing line 12 amendment

Shell 12 has a fastener 24 of loop-type filamentary material attached to the outer frontal surface of diaper 10. In the rear portion of the outer corners of diaper 10 are fasteners 26, affixed to the diaper 10 such that hook-type filamentary material 30 closes onto loop material 28 to protect the hook material from accumulating lint during laundering, with the hook and loop materials being separated from each other by a space [26] to form a hinge. The elastic strip 32 conforms the layers to fit the waist and buttocks region of the wearer through gathers 34.

Page 8, paragraph containing line 14 amendment

Figs. 1C-1H show the construction method by which three layers of fabric come together to form a leak proof undergarment interior. In Fig. 1C, a piece of anchor cloth 16 is positioned over outer shell 12, similarly configured, as a first step in the manufacture of anchored pocket 50. In Fig. 1D, stitch line 17 pierces the cloth 16 in a rectangular pattern and attaches to hold pocket 50 to its anchor cloth now stitched centrally. The edges or sides of the material 13 take shape into a pocket-shape 50 as corners 21 are removed, and the sides become seamed at 42. The pocket may alternatively take shape by forwarding the corners at 42[A and 42B], the folded cover 21A therefore is not removed.

Pages 13 and 14, paragraph containing Page 14, line 1 amendment

Figure 6, another embodiment of similar structure to Figure 5, incorporates the same elements of structural formation; outermost surface layer 16A forming as both a panty and anchor cloth for a pocketed sling, the same elastic 5 for finishing outer waist portions of the garment, and side seams 102, that, when seamed form protective panty 11. The anchored pocket of Figure 6 carries central connecting pieces 160 and 160A respectively at frontal and rear portions, now stitched centrally to 16A at stitch lines 163 and 163A. Anchor strips 620 are inserted in both sides of leg hole, elastic 18 at central portion of leg hole elastic 18 and then connected, or inserted in, elastic of pocket elastic 40. Manufacturing of garment strips 620 may be in reverse order of assembly by first being inserted in pocket elastic 40 and then attached to central portion of the panty (stitched over top of elastic 18). These connecting pieces 620 anchor the pocket 502 without piercing the fluid absorbing or containing area of pocket 502. The connecting pieces suspend the pocket 502 centrally at opposite ends. The pocket 502 is connected at opposite ends by overlock stitching 108. Elastic 18 finishes the leg hole. Elastic 40 terminates within seam 104, and the outermost edge of the pocket is finished by overlock stitch 162.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims presently in the application as follows: